

SPELMAN HIGHLIGHT

The Voice of African-American Womanhood

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Spelman "Land-Locked": No Room For Parking

By Elisa Smith
Editor-in-Chief

How many times have you arrived at the Atlanta University Center parking lot at 9:40 a.m. - ample time to get to your 10 o'clock class - only to circle the lot for 20 minutes, still unable to find an empty parking space, thus late for class?

Or, how many times have you refused to face those circumstances by parking on campus in an unassigned area, only to return finding a bright yellow and black parking violation securely glued to your car window?

Well, if you think it's bad now, get prepared; things will be worse next semester.

On October 22, vice president and dean of Student Affairs Freddie Hill, vice president of Business Affairs Robert Flanigan and director of Public Safety Steve Bowser met with the Spelman Student Government Association to discuss the parking problems at Spelman.

According to Dean Hill, the original site of the Camille Olivia Hanks Cosby Academic Center (adjacent to Giles Hall) was changed due to underground geographic problems such as plumbing.

The new site is where the Helen T. Albro Guest House is presently located.

Construction for the Cosby Center is scheduled to begin in the spring of 1992.

This construction will decrease the number of faculty parking spaces in the Fine Arts parking lot.

"In order to get a building permit to begin construction, we must show adequate parking," said Dean Hill.

Thus, a student Parking Committee under the leadership of S.W.A.C. was formed to "help arrive at a set of concessions on everybody's part that will be [the] best [longterm plan] for the institution," said Mr. Bowser.

The loss of faculty parking spaces in the Fine Arts parking lot will probably mean a decrease in the number of on-campus student parking spaces.

"On-campus students are on the bottom of the priority list," said Mr. Bowser, stating that many faculty and staff members believe on-campus student parking is a luxury.

High on the list of parking priorities is the accommodation of faculty and staff members, commuter students and visitors (vendors, guest lecturers, speakers, prospective students, conference-goers, etc.).

Students suggested that local residential and commercial land plots be bought and converted into parking lots.

But Mr. Flanigan believes that Spelman's increasing enrollment and increasing number of off-campus residents make it impossible to accommodate such an "ever-expanding demand on limited space."

"It would be a waste of resources

to buy flat land," he said, because expansion would be necessary in the future.

The most obvious solution to the problem of inadequate parking: build a parking deck.

The most obvious prevention to that solution: "Spelman is 'land-locked'," said Mr. Flanigan.

Since Spelman's campus cannot house a parking deck, students suggested the use of the Sears property at the West End Mall.

Mr. Flanigan said that the use of the property was considered about six months ago, but the property is being sold as one package - Sears, the auto shop and the parking deck. Spelman would have no commercial use for the property and that is the target of the sale.

Additionally, transportation (possibly via shuttle buses) would have to be provided to and from the Sears lot and, according to Mr. Flanigan, the Board of Trustees does not want a "north campus" and a "south campus."

Students also recommended that the land between Howard Harrel Hall and the Stewart Living and Learning Center be paved for parking.

But the Board of Trustees would not like to see this campus turn into a "concrete jungle," said Dean Hill.

Mr. Flanigan noted that there are approximately 7,000 cars demanding use of the Atlanta University Center parking lot.

Upon suggestion of building a parking deck in the A.U.C. lot, Mr. Flanigan said negotiations with the other A.U.C. institutions would have to take place, possibly resulting in 1,000 - 1,000 jointly shared by the institutions.

"There is just no way to accommodate all the cars that need to park there," he said.

Ultimately, students, faculty and staff members will be forced to carpool.

This might be more difficult for faculty and staff members, but students - especially those who live in apartment complexes that are off the Marta-line - would benefit from carpooling.

An incentive for faculty and staff members to carpool would be the provision of premium parking spaces - outside of Manley Student Center, behind Giles and Morehouse-James halls and in front of Rockefeller Hall.

Those who live on the Marta-line could drive their cars to the West End or Vine City Marta stations and take advantage of the A.U.C. shuttle buses.

These problems demonstrate the necessity of a parking policy, which Spelman currently does not have.

Parking spaces are distributed through a "lottery," but the lottery continues to be revised to eliminate

PARKING FACTS

Spaces Available By Location

Henry Street Lot - Any Spelman Permit	113
Fine Arts Lot	67
Upton Drive	33
West Drive	11
LLC I	17
Bessie Strong	31
Main Quad	54
Rear Abby	59
Rear Morehouse James	16
Visitor	17
Handicapped	7

Parking Availability By Category

Total Faculty/Staff Availability	207
Total Student On-Campus Availability	95
Total Visitor Availability	17
Total Handicapped Availability	7
Pick-Up/Drop-Off	3

Total On-Campus Availability 329

Henry Street Lot Availability 113

TOTAL PARKING AVAILABILITY 442

Parking Permit Distribution

Faculty and Staff (with one vehicle)	307
Faculty and Staff (multiple vehicles)	252
Total	559
* Potential Daily Use Impact - 433	
Student Off-Campus	362
Student On-Campus	95
Total	457
* Potential Daily Use Impact - 457	

Total Potential Daily Impact 890

Source: Steve Bowser, director of Spelman College Public Safety

off-campus students from receiving on-campus parking.

Additionally, the Department of Public Safety has found that some people with off-campus permits allow others to use them.

"A considerable amount of permits are taken from men," said Mr. Bowser.

Students are encouraged to give their recommendations on increasing parking and on implementing a parking policy to Mr. Bowser by November 9.

INSIDE:

* Campus Queens

* The Myth of A.U.C. Unity

* Clarence Thomas' Confirmation

PREROGATIVE

Do "We Wear the Mask"?

By Riché Richardson
Associate Editor

As a result of attending the Community Dialogue on Women during Black Women's Health Week, I decided to make sexism the topic of my next *Spotlight* editorial.

Very often, we as women don't understand the dynamics of sexism.

Sexism is certainly not a Western phenomenon. It has, for the most part, been practiced historically in most Western and Eastern societies.

In *Mad at Miles*, Pearl Cleage defines sexism as "all the ways men mess over women from the cradle to the grave and which are painfully evident in all rituals, institutions, educational systems, cultural expressions, family structures, religions, and economic systems that men have devised; a social, economic, political, spiritual or sexual relationship in which males have authority over females based solely on gender."

Well, such a long definition certainly illustrates the complexity of the problem that women inevitably face in societies where patriarchy prevails.

It is imperative that we understand the obvious and subtle characteristics of sexism, for it is a problem that must definitely be understood if it is to be defeated ultimately.

Too often, women acquiesce to the tenets of sexism inadvertently, (and sadly, sometimes knowingly).

We as women must acknowledge ourselves in terms of gender along with race to become whole individuals.

Historically, many black women have compromised gender identity for racial identity. Never should we neglect our womanhood. We can simultaneously acknowledge ourselves on both levels.

I will not even attempt to address more than a few aspects of sexism. Attempting such a feat in a mere editorial would be like trying to burn the sea.

I doubt that anyone could adequately address all conceivable sexist practices in a set of books. Therefore, I'll simply mention some things that should make you go, "Hmmm."

First, religion, a tenet of civilization that helps one to come to terms with inner turmoil, has often been used to

subjugate women. For instance, from the Hebrew scriptures to the Christian scriptures in the Bible, it is suggested that women are inferior to men.

I find the notion that God is a male and made men to rule over and subdue weak-minded women as absurd as I find the notion that Jesus was a blond-haired, blue-eyed Caucasian who died to purge our "blackened" souls of sin and wash us as white as snow.

I simply can't believe that Destiny would have consigned women to an inferior status for all time.

I would never say that whites are inherently intellectually superior to blacks, so why should I think that any man is born to outthink me.

It follows that I use inclusive language when referring to God. Simply stated, I could not deem God my Father without deeming God my Mother, too.

Moreover, I've wondered for a long time whether it's right to assign a gender to God at all.

Second, a lot of women don't understand the extent to which females are made objects in society.

Last summer, I was disturbed by the naïveté of a supermodel concerning sexism. When asked whether women are exploited in the fashion industry, she said "no" for the sheer reason that models are generously paid.

Obviously, she did not understand that while models are indeed paid much money, the objectification of women is a preoccupation in society.

That objectification is epitomized in the fashion industry. I'm not suggesting that women should not be models. A modeling career can be rather rewarding, and I truly admire some covergirls.

I simply want all women to understand every medium that could potentially be exploitative so that we will be equipped to protect ourselves.

An episode of the "Oprah Winfrey Show" really convinced me that most women don't completely understand sexism.

When Naomi Woolf, a recent Princeton University graduate, was discussing concepts that she presents in her book *The Beauty Myth*, most members of the audience became

defensive.

Essentially, Woolf maintained that society's beauty standards in general and fashion requirements in the workplace (i.e. makeup) in particular are designed to subjugate women.

Most women in the audience, black and white, did not understand the implications of society's beauty standards.

The women simply expressed a desire to "look beautiful" without examining the power structure that largely determines what is considered to be "beautiful" in society.

Black women should be particularly skeptical about the standards; historically, we have been (and continue to be) more abused by them than any other group of women.

Third, in my eyes, dancing to musical lyrics that denigrate women would be akin to supporting bigots who shout racial epithets.

However, it should be noted that I also refuse to buy the records of most black male entertainers because I don't like the fact that they devalue black womanhood by exclusively displaying racially ambiguous women in music videos.

(Really, to put any woman - red, black, brown, or white - on display as a half-dressed leading lady is problematic.)

I simply have no tolerance for self-hating Negroes who are colorstruck.

To me, artists who don't show an

unbiased appreciation of black womanhood are deadweight in the black community.

They, along with Negroes who sing misogynistic lyrics, are not worth supporting with money and time that could be put to better use.

We must always be aware of sexist practices in society.

At Spelman, we're lucky because foremost scholars in women's studies are accessible.

Sisters, use this environment to rediscover yourselves as women of African descent. We are really blessed to be in an environment that acknowledges our blackness and our womanhood.

In the process of becoming acquainted with the self as a woman, I suggest that every woman read feminist and womanist writings to get an understanding of facts about sexism.

Second, every woman should observe her own life to eventually purge it of the manifestations of sexism.

Third, every woman should strive to be strong enough to say "no" to male domination. Even in our cherished love relationships, we should not allow ourselves to be bullied into walking behind a male.

Integrity should not be compromised, and a mask should never be worn when one is in a relationship.

I always say that if a guy can't let me be a woman for all seasons, then he's not man enough for me.

SPELMAN SPOTLIGHT

STAFF

Editor-in-Chief
Associate Editor
Staff Advisor

Elisa Smith
Riché Richardson
Leisha Stewart

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Where's the Beef?

By NiaMalika A. Rashid

Lately, the cafeteria food has been taking a plunging nose dive sending some of Spelman's hungry students running for the Pepto and others making that long hike to the West End A&P.

There has been a drastic change in the quality of the meals since Freshman Week.

Many students have been complaining that the only safe thing to eat is the cereal.

Students have become ill, forcing them to avoid the cafeteria. Diarrhea is running rampant along with chronic stomach aches.

There is also a lack of variety in the meals.

Baked fish is served every day.

If there is ham served on Monday and macaroni served on Wednesday, look for "Ham-Mac" to be served on Friday.

There is too much pork served; bacon and sausage are always served for breakfast forcing some to eat cereal nearly every morning.

The dishes are hardly clean. There is almost always lipstick on the glasses, food residue on plates and bowls, and detergent spots on the silverware.

With the cost of meal tickets here at Spelman, one would expect a little better quality.

Speaking from experience and for my fellow Spelman sisters, there should be better food. The cafeteria needs a definite improvement.

CAMPUS NEWS

Alcohol Awareness: Don't Be Left in the Dark

By Brenda Twyner Robinson

October 13-19 marked National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, which is sponsored by the Inter-Association Task Force on Alcohol and Other Substance Abuse Issues.

College campuses across the country recognized this week by sponsoring various activities and programs to educate students about the potential problems inherent in alcohol and other drug use.

Spelman was an active participant by offering informational sessions and literature to respond to the four objectives of this task force during this nationally recognized week.

The four objectives are:

- to increase the consciousness of alcohol and other drug misuse on college campuses with emphasis on prevention
- to focus attention on different facts of the issue by scheduled forums, lectures and distribution of literature
- to promote existing campus and community resources that focus on prevention and intervention
- to enhance the development of responsible decision-making skills and living a healthy lifestyle.

Spelman College has an extensive alcohol and drug policy published in the Student Handbook.

Because college students tend to be young and healthy, there is often a lot of denial by students of the range and scope of the problem of chemical use.

Recent changes in state laws which increased the legal drinking age from 18 to 21 further suggest the seriousness and incidence of problems associated with alcohol use among young, college age adults.

First and foremost, we must recognize that alcohol is a mood-altering drug which can be addictive and lethal.

It is a myth that casual use of alcohol and other drugs does not hurt.

Alcohol use can lead to abuse and dependence.

Alcoholism is a primary and progressive disease which many researchers believe has a significant hereditary component.

The effect of alcohol on the body depends on various factors such as weight, age, attitude and health of the liver.

Initial reactions to alcohol include impaired judgment, drowsiness, loss of inhibition, decrease in reflexes, depressed senses and further brain and nerve depression.

Chronic use can lead to liver disease, destruction of brain cells, delirium tremors (DT'S), black outs,

fetal alcohol syndrome and increased vulnerability to a variety of other illnesses.

In addition to these health risks, it is a major factor in many automobile accidents which are a leading cause of death in our country among young people.

It is also a significant factor in rape and other forms of campus violence.

The reasons for use of mood-altering chemicals are varied and often have significant psychological and emotional implications.

For example, low self-esteem coupled with peer pressure often makes young people vulnerable to use.

Other reasons include curiosity, escaping from problems, availability, sexual anxiety and lack of information.

Equally important in alcohol and other drug abuse are the unique cultural considerations with regard to African Americans.

The Black family's struggle to maintain cohesiveness in our society is well researched and documented.

Alcohol and other substance abuse further add to the devastation of Black family life.

The reasons for use by some African Americans are clearly rooted in the many manifestations of racism, such as joblessness and economic

frustration.

In view of this, the rejection of alcohol and other drug use must be one of the responsibilities of our young folks of African descent.

It is important that our young people commit themselves to strengthening Black family life rather than participating in its deterioration by the misuse of alcohol and other drugs.

One of the ways to address this is to learn more about the effects of alcohol and other drugs.

Spelman's Counseling Service is available to respond to student concerns about substance abuse.

These concerns may be personal or involve a friend or family member.

When necessary, referrals will be made to the appropriate community resource such as AA (Alcoholics Anonymous), NA (Narcotics Anonymous) or ACOA (Adult Children of Alcoholics) group sessions.

There are also a range of outpatient and inpatient treatment facilities in the area.

In the spirit of sisterhood, let's gain awareness and not be left in the dark.

Brenda Twyner Robinson, MSW, LCSW, is a clinical social worker at Spelman's Counseling Services, located in MacVicar Infirmary.

A.U.C. Graduate School Day a Success

By Ladonya Massie

The annual Atlanta University Center Graduate/Professional School Information and Recruitment Day was held on Tuesday, October 15, at the Robert Woodruff Library.

Approximately 129 schools participated in the program.

Barbara Brown, associate dean of Spelman's Career Planning and Placement Office, said the purpose of the day was "to provide information on graduate and professional school programs in terms of admission requirements and financial aid programs."

She added that the program attempts to meet the needs of all students by presenting a variety of schools.

"The program lets students know the vast choices they have," said Brown.

TuWanda Stawbridge, a junior chemical engineering major at Spelman, said, "I thought there were a lot of schools in attendance with helpful information."

Other students did not agree with Stawbridge's opinion.

Shawnya Gray, a senior Spanish major, believed that some representatives were not very knowledgeable about all of their schools' programs.

"I met at least three people who were not familiar with their Spanish programs," said Gray.

Brown said that about 300 Spelman students were in attendance.

An Evening To Remember

By Nicole Elaine Johnson

On October 6 the long awaited Big Sister/Little Sister Tea took place in the Upper Concourse of Manley Student Center.

It was a very special event for the juniors and the freshmen who participated.

The event began with a short program at Sisters Chapel.

Junior class president Betrice Donald gave a warm welcome and freshman class president Bukola Oguntala said an enlightening prayer.

Dean Hill offered some inspirational words and a touching song was sung by Terrilyn Perrien and Latricia Henson.

To conclude the program, both juniors and freshmen took the Oath of Sisterhood, the most important part of the program.

In this very special oath, the big sisters promised to be a guide, a listener and a part of the lives of their little sisters. The little sisters took the oath to look to their big sisters in good times and bad times, and to see them as a guide throughout the years at Spelman.

One junior was asked why she chose to be a big sister and her response was that she wanted to "share some of [her] experiences and mistakes with [her] little sister. The first year of college is a big step and any tips from an experienced Spelman sister can only help."

Most freshmen were glad that there was a tradition like the Big Sister/Little Sister Tea.

"The first year of college is really a lot to handle without some kind of

Continued on page 9

Cosby Center Coming Soon

By Donnica L. Gordon

In November of 1988, Dr. Bill and Mrs. Camille Cosby announced their gift to Spelman College: \$20,000,000. The public announcement of the gift was made at the inauguration dinner for our Sister President Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole.

\$12,000,000 of the gift is to be used for the construction of the Camille Olivia Hanks Cosby Academic Center, which will consist of space for a museum; Archives and Special Collections; a Reference Reading Room; classrooms and an auditorium; Interdisciplinary Centers; faculty offices and support space for the English, Modern Foreign Languages, History, Philosophy, and Religion departments; the Honors Program; the Women's Center; and Educational Media.

The Center will provide an opportunity to consolidate the Humanities departments; provide state-of-the-art teaching and research space; provide a focus and repository for African-American art, culture, history, and literature; and provide a focal point for diverse campus and community cultural activities.

According to the Cosby Center Planning Committee, "the Cosby Center

will serve [both] the Spelman community and the larger community as a hub of intellectual life and cultural life."

In April of 1991, the groundbreaking ceremony for the Cosby Center took place during Spelman's 110th Founders Day Celebration.

The building site is located where the Helen T. Albro Guesthouse currently sits. When construction begins, the guesthouse will be moved to another area.

Some concerns have been raised about the relocation of the guesthouse.

According to a Facility Program that explains the plans for the Center, "the Cosby Center will have a public presence - Museum, Archives, Special Collections, and Auditorium - and also a robust College presence."

"The siting of the building must respond to the access and security requirements of both constituencies."

The Center will consist of 183 spaces totaling 92,900 gross square feet.

Construction of the Center is set to begin between May and July of 1992.

To date, the Center's progress is on schedule.

CAMPUS NEWS

The Battle Ends, The Dialogue Begins: Judge Clarence Thomas is Confirmed

By C. Wiatta Freeman

Despite an enormous amount of controversy this month over sexual harassment charges, Judge Clarence Thomas was sworn in as the 106th justice and the second African-American judge of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Judge Thomas took the judicial oath in a private ceremony in the conference room of the Supreme Court Chief Justice, William Rehnquist, before three witnesses - his wife Virginia L. Thomas, Missouri senator and friend, Thomas C. Danforth, and the chief justice's administrative assistant, Robb M. Jones.

The swearing-in was not announced publicly until after the event took place.

A public oath will take place Friday, Nov. 1 before an invited audience. According to Toni House, the Court's public information officer, the swearing-in ceremony of Oct. 24 was done at the request of Judge Thomas, who was ready to begin work and wanted his employees on the Court's payroll.

The Supreme Court is now in recess until the end of the month. Judge Clarence Thomas will take his position as the seventh conservative judge of nine justices when the Court resumes at its regular Friday morning session. At 43, Judge Clarence Thomas is the youngest member of the Supreme Court.

Judge Clarence Thomas was confirmed October 15, the Senate voting 52-48, after a week of controversial and intense hearings on

allegations of sexual harassment.

Two days after the confirmation, an elaborate and public induction ceremony was held on the White House South Lawn (a place usually reserved for state visits and bill signings).

The oath of office he took on the Lawn is one required by the Constitution of "all executive and judicial officers" and is not the same one said at the swearing-in.

Judge Thomas spoke of "the difficult days" of the hearings but spoke of "the joy" he felt at the South Lawn ceremony.

He also said, "Today, now, is the time to move forward, a time to look for what is good in others, what is good in our country. It's a time to see what we have in common, what we share as human beings and citizens."

President Bush, elated at the confirmation of his nominee, said, "Celebrate this day. See what this son of Pinpoint has made of himself. See how he makes us proud of America."

Feminist groups could not share the same elation.

The day Thomas was confirmed, a representative from the Women's Legal Defense Fund said, "Today the Senate sacrificed the integrity of the Supreme Court, its own reputation, and the rights of American women to the Bush-Reagan era."

The public was shocked as they watched attentively the often explicit hearings that convened in response to sexual harassment allegations of

Professor Anita Hill, a tenured law professor at the University of Oklahoma.

Professor Hill worked as Judge Thomas's personal assistant from 1981-83 at the Education Department and then the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

According to the allegations, Judge Thomas asked Anita Hill out on a date. When she told him no, he began to make suggestive remarks and referred to pornographic films he had seen.

Four long days of testimony held the American public glued to the television.

For some, it was a Capitol Hill soap opera, full of explicit language, deception, and the confrontation of two "uppity Negroes." For many women, it was much more serious. Anita Hill was the silenced voices of millions of women in the workplace, and particularly on Capitol Hill, who have suffered sexual harassment.

For some African-American women, it was an agonizing spectacle to watch their sister debased by implications that she was a spurned woman who was seeking revenge, a woman to be pitied, and not believed.

Whispers from history reminded Black women that "they always want it anyway."

For others, Anita Hill was an embarrassment. She committed the ultimate sin: aired our dirty laundry in front of white folks. She is a woman who wrongfully abandoned race loyalty, and let herself be used by whites to destroy a black man.

For many African-Americans, the black man was once again being devalued and mistreated because of the color of his skin.

For others, both Hill and Thomas lost, used as pawns in a political game between feminist groups, conservative interest groups, the White House, Republicans and Democrats.

Perhaps the sexual harassment hearings brought more questions than answers. Many Americans believed that the hearings, supposedly called to inform the public and to seek the truth, only served to embarrass all involved and left the truth even more elusive.

Yet as I walked around this campus, I knew that for African-American women the hearings were not futile.

Sisters were talking.

Sisters were talking to one another.

Sisters were talking to brothers.

Sisters are still talking.

Though Spelman College is a black women's campus, the sexual oppression from which we suffer is rarely discussed.

Professor Anita Hill breached the subject in our minds. She put the issue on our discussion table.

Hopefully, we will continue to break the silence and further explore how sexism affects Black women.

See page 5 for students' responses to Judge Clarence Thomas' confirmation.

Packard To Be Preserved

By Binta Vann

Packard Hall is the oldest and smallest dormitory on Spelman's campus.

It was built in 1891 and served as an academic building for many decades thereafter.

It is currently a home to many freshmen and a workplace for the admission's office.

Spelman College's administration is planning to renovate Packard Hall.

The types of changes the administration anticipates include reinforcement of the woodwork and foundation, installation of air conditioning and illumination of the "hidden" stairways.

Although the actual work will not take place for about two years, the idea alone has sparked many opinions from Spelman students.

Sentiments have been expressed from upperclassmen and former "Packites" in support and in opposition to this new project.

Some students, like Kimberly Jacob, who is a former Packard resident, believe that "Packard is in desperate need of repairs."

While other students like sophomore and former "Packite" Charnette Richard believe "the renovation may destroy the home-like atmosphere."

The idea came about when the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior Manuel Lujan sent requests to 100 historically black colleges and universities, asking them to submit nominations of buildings they feel should be renovated on their campus. Forty-eight colleges responded, and a total of 144 buildings were nominated.

Experts reviewed the nominations and narrowed their decision to 11 buildings.

The project will cost approximately \$20 million. The money for this project must be received from the federal government and private sector.

Town Meeting Addresses Burning Issues

By Erica N. Wright

Over a hundred students came out to attend Spelman's semiannual Fall Town Meeting to discuss "the burning issues" with President Johnnetta B. Cole, the Student Government Association, and Spelman's administrators.

There were numerous concerns raised, including an editorial in the CAU Panther containing a mock interview between Dr. Thomas Cole, president of Clark-Atlanta University, and Dr. Johnnetta Cole; problems of disunity in the Atlanta University Center; the Financial Aid Office; the cafeteria; and "What does it mean to be a Spelman sister."

Concerning the mock interview, President Cole admonished students to rise above it. She quoted an African proverb illustrating that when we fight against each other, we suffer as a people.

To promote unity within in the AUC, Dr. Cole meets regularly with other AUC-institution presidents at least once a month.

S.S.G.A. president Katrina Myers also meets with fellow AUC SGA

presidents to discuss strengthening AUC unity and to devise activities that encourage interaction between the schools.

Regarding "Who is considered a Spelman sister?", Dr. Cole said that sisterhood is not measured by the day a student enters or leaves Spelman's gates. It is measured by the largeness of our hearts.

"If you pass this way and care about the people her [at Spelman] then you are a sister," she said.

Other issues discussed were parking, adding more Women's and African studies to the curriculum, the community service shuttle, students' behavior during convocation, and President's Cole's office hours.

If you have any concerns that were not addressed at the Town Meeting, please contact the S.S.G.A., the Spelman Woman's Action Coalition (S.W.A.C.), or make an appointment to see Dean Freddie Hill.

As one student eloquently said, "And don't forget to say 'Thank you' when you receive what you have asked."

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

The Coalition With a Mission

By Traci McAllister

SWAC, Spelman Women's Action Coalition, is an organization under the Spelman Student Government Association which acts as a liaison between the student body and the administration.

SWAC listens to the concerns of students then organizes committees to see that these concerns are resolved.

Currently, SWAC has ten standing committees. These committees include: Public Safety/Security, Cafeteria/Book Shop, Residential Life, Recycling, Student Affairs, Publicity, Scholarship/Career Opportunities, AIDS Awareness, Black Women's Health and Advisory to the Women's Health Clinic.

These committees are all working hard to improve the conditions at Spelman College.

The Public Safety committee is developing a campus crime update which will alert students to the crimes that may occur on campus.

The Cafeteria committee has established a committee that meets with Ms. Green weekly to discuss the planning of meals in the cafeteria.

The Residential Life committee has checked with Dean Hill regarding the status of microwaves in every dorm. Dean Hill has informed the committee that she will provide any dorm who wants to purchase a microwave with half the amount if the dorm raises the other half.

The Recycling committee has contacted Coca-Cola, and Coca-Cola has said that they will provide our

campus with recycling bins for aluminum cans.

The Scholarship/Career Opportunities committee has placed a weekly listing of scholarships and career opportunities on both boards in upper and lower Manley. They will soon be compiling all of the opportunities they have researched.

The AIDS Awareness committee has created weekly posters and flyers alerting students about the seriousness of AIDS. Next month they will be sponsoring a forum on AIDS.

The Black Women's Health committee successfully sponsored Black Women's Health Week. This week included forums on AIDS, date rape, battered women, and a safe sex party.

The Student Affairs committee is currently creating boxes in which students will be able to place comments regarding their treatment in various offices around campus.

Lastly, the Advisory committee to the Women's Health Center has met with Ms. Benton and they are planning changes in the hours of operation for the clinic starting next semester.

Overall, SWAC has resolved several of the concerns of students and hopes to accomplish more.

If you are interested in joining SWAC there are weekly meetings on Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in lower Manley.

Please come out and voice your concerns.

Ms. Spelman Gives Back

By Nissa Walton

Ms. Spelman 1991-92, DeShaunda Gooden, has planned an interesting project to complete during her reign.

Ms. Gooden has come up with a project called the Kuumba Reading Room Project.

This project is designed to provide children in various grades with an opportunity to learn about their African heritage through literature while also motivating the children to read.

The project will involve children who attend St. Anthony's Catholic School and volunteers from Spelman College.

The project is geared to: foster positive self-esteem through the use of literature, build knowledge of the contributions of Africans and African-Americans to the arts, create opportunities for children to interact with Spelman students, provide help in reading skills, and create a community of readers and writers for the future African-American community.

Ms. Gooden is working with Spelman's Student Government Association on the project since her position as Ms. Spelman is an S.S.G.A. office.

"I feel like this will be a positive program for both the elementary school students as well as the Spelman students," she said in a recent interview. "I'm very excited."

The Kuumba Reading Room Project is scheduled to start as soon as possible.

Where Your Money Goes

By LaNae Dora

Many students are wondering, "Where are the fees?"

The student fee is included in the cost of tuition, and Spelmanites want to know where that money is going.

It is reported that the amount of the student fees is determined by the director of Financial Affairs, Danny Flannigan.

The fee is \$40 this year and is paid by every full-time student each semester.

The money is then given to the Spelman Student Government Association's budget, which is prepared by the treasurer Crystal Sidberry.

The SSGA budget serves many purposes.

The money is used for every event that is SSGA-sponsored.

Many students are not aware that the SSGA is responsible for payment of honoraria to speakers who appear in many of the forums that the SSGA sponsors.

In addition, the organization allocates money for social activities such as the Miss Blue and White Pageant and Movie Nights.

The SSGA also finances any events sponsored by the Spelman Women's Action Coalition (SWAC) and all supplies used for publicity or decorations.

How Do You Feel About Judge Clarence Thomas? A.U.C. Students Respond

By C. Wiatta Freeman

Sentiments were strong. Atlanta University Center students had a lot to say about the Clarence Thomas confirmation. The opinions represented here are the result of a random sampling.

Veronica Stephens, sophomore English major, Spelman College

"Clarence Thomas, if anything, does not know his history. To his accusation of 'high-tech lynching', I ask, 'When has a Black man ever been lynched by a white mob for offending the honor of a Black woman?'"

Karimu Smith, junior Biochemistry major, Spelman College

"The decision to confirm Clarence Thomas validates the degradation and alienation of African-American women. Implicit in both the testimony of Judge Thomas and the gender-biased attacks on Anita Hill by the 14 Caucasian, male senators on the Judiciary Committee are misogynistic ideas that African-American women are deceitful, hysterical and immoral. By passively accepting the Thomas confirmation, we are supporting a racist and sexist system of adjudication that will determine our reproductive rights, social welfare and educational opportunities."

Lisa Farmer, freshman Biology major, Spelman College

"Clarence Thomas says, 'I am against affirmative action, even though that's how I got where I am today'."

David Spearman, sophomore Business major, Clark-Atlanta University

"I believe Judge Thomas harassed Professor Hill...Just because Bush nominated Thomas for the Supreme Court does not mean he is a Black role model. We should not depend on 'the other man' to tell us who are leaders are. The first letters of the judge's name spell 'Thom', and that is just what he is - a sell-out."

Tonya Mathews, senior Psychology major, Spelman College

"I think he did something, but I don't think it was as serious as she made it out to be. It happened 10 years ago. It's irrelevant and has nothing to do with what type of judge he'll be. Bottom line, he wants what we want. He wants to see Black people progress. He just wants it accomplished [in] a different way."

Carla Cherry, junior Political Science/History major, Spelman College

"George Bush is sending a signal to Black America. He's telling us [that] the liberal philosophies that we espoused to in the past are no longer acceptable. Conservative policies are the way to go."

Paul Maxwell, senior Psychology major, Morehouse College

"Initially, I was not a supporter of Thomas and I'm still not a supporter...I don't understand why Anita Hill made the comments she made - whether they are true or false...It seems to me that she was used as a pawn for two groups - the ('White') Women's Movement and the critics of Clarence Thomas...If Black people have problems with other Black people, those disputes need to be aired amongst ourselves, not on the White male-controlled television!"

Sharon L. Adams, sophomore Physical Therapy major, Clark-Atlanta University

"The hearings got out of hand...I think he probably did harass her, but it was blown out of proportion. People get sexually harassed everyday."

Leslie Bryant, junior Child Development major, Spelman College

"Was Judge Thomas chosen because of his abilities or was he chosen because he is Black? I am against him, but I don't think something that happened 10 years ago should effect his confirmation."

Richard Campbell, junior Computer Science major, Morehouse College

"I was glad he was confirmed...It did not make sense for African-Americans to oppose Judge Thomas like they did. Isn't it better to have a Black conservative judge than no Black judge at all?...The sexual harassment charges were a last-ditch effort by Democrats and certain Blacks to destroy Thomas's integrity and his chances of being confirmed."

Alisha Coleman, junior English major, Spelman College

"I don't think he should have been confirmed...His confirmation tells other women [that] if something like that happens to them, they will not be believed...I think he's going to cause a lot of problems for the Black community, especially Black women."

Jeri Byrom, senior Psychology major, Spelman College

"I would prefer a white conservative than one of our own with the values and opinions he has. What angered me most was his use of race when it was convenient, when previously he said it had no bearing on his success."

Jacqueline Knighton, freshman Biomedical Engineering major, Clark-Atlanta University

"Judge Thomas [has] many views - most of the public does not agree with, but one must understand, this is his job for life."

THE MYTH OF

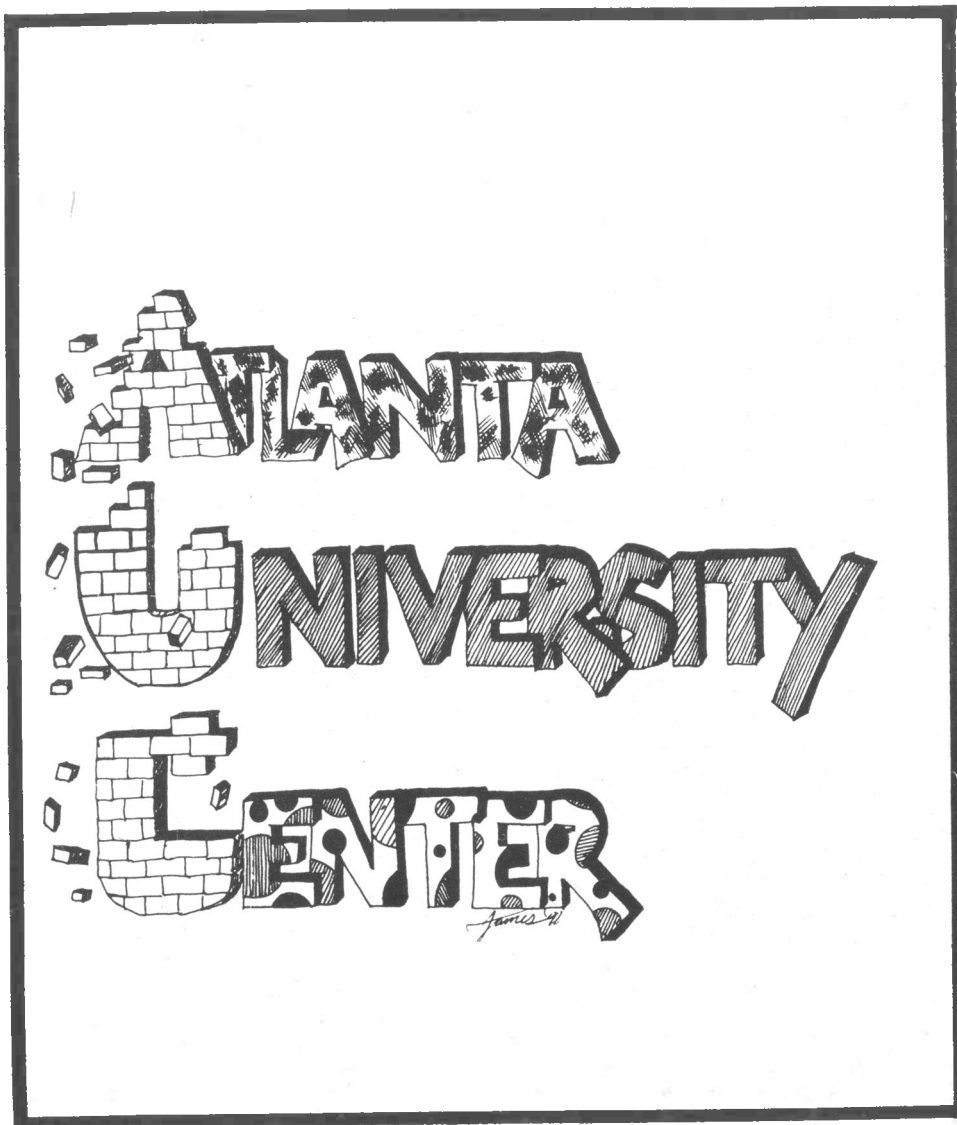


Illustration by Aurellia James.

By Tamala Newbold

Lately, there has been a lot of dissension among the ranks of AUC students.

Mr. William Blackburn's scathing editorial in the October 9 issue of the CAU Panther, "Look What the Wind Blew In," has only added to it.

Mr. Blackburn, do you have nothing else to worry about?

I will assume that you have a 4.0 cumulative GPA and have all but exhausted yourself, your time, and your energies in community service activities aimed at uplifting the race.

Therefore, you understandably must have nothing left to do but fall prey to petty stereotypes and write divisive articles, adding yet another thorn in the side of our thwarting AUC unity.

Mr. Blackburn, you are part of the problem!!!

We need to tell the members of the Ku Klux Klan to resign their posts and revoke their memberships. The destruction of African Americans is imminent, but at the hands of our own people.

Once again, this time in response to William Blackburn's very bitter editorial in the CAU Panther, the question of AUC unity has come to the forefront.

The problem with the student and administrative leaders' monotonous annual plea for all students to put aside school differences and band together, however, is that we shouldn't have to rely on the administrations of our respective schools to stress AUC unity.

We should naturally assume it. Not one of us needs to be

reminded of the state of our race and the tremendous amount of work that needs to be done to better our lot in America.

We, the students of the Atlanta University Center, have overcome remarkable obstacles and obliterated numerous stereotypes - the stereotypes stating that we should be pregnant, on drugs, selling drugs, in jail, killed by another member of our race at a very young age - to come together for the common purpose of receiving a quality education.

This is why it is particularly troubling that we, the future leaders of our race, cannot see past such insignificant things as school rivalry to the much bigger problem of saving our race from destruction.

Instead, we are too busy trying to destroy one another.

Every year, during freshman week, representatives from the four undergraduate schools in the AUC organize activities stressing AUC unity, striving to make that dream a reality.

It seems, however, that this quest for unity ends with the euphoria of freshman week, and fighting between the schools is quickly underway.

In past years, students from one AUC institution have been warned by school administrators not to go to the library alone or in sizable groups - and definitely not in school paraphernalia - because of potential fighting with members of other AUC schools.

How did things get THIS bad?

Are we now trying to deprive one another the basic right of education,

By Deshaunda Gooden

The decision to respond to the accusations made in the editorial submitted by Mr. Blackburn in the Clark Atlanta University Panther dated October 9, 1991, was a painstaking one.

On one hand, a response to such ludicrous and unfounded statements would be giving them credibility.

However, on the other hand, failure to respond would be, as the prolific writer Ralph Ellison termed 45 years ago, "accepting my invisibility."

And so, searching deep within myself and finding my voice as a woman, an African-American, a student in the Atlanta University Center, a Spelmanite, I could not, in good faith, ignore the commentary and face myself each day thereafter.

And so, Mr. Blackburn, it gives me great pleasure to inform you that Spelmanites are, too, down with O.P.P. - OUR PEOPLE'S PROGRESS - and comments like those made in your editorial not only hinder our collective progress, but also cause us to regress.

By perpetuating the myth of the "Spelman princess" (with myth being the operant term), you are adding to the animosity and division that is already prevalent within the confines

of the Atlanta University Center.

And Mr. Blackburn, by basing your argument against the admission of six Spelman students into a Clark-Atlanta University dormitory (sounds strangely familiar - remember the Little Rock Nine, *Brown v. Board*) on the premise that Spelman would be unwilling to do the same for the other schools in the Atlanta University Center, you obviously failed to realize that Spelman has the least amount of on-campus housing available.

And did you also fail to recall, while managing to spread insinuations about how Spelman chooses to allocate its funds, that a fair amount of that money has been spent helping to alleviate Clark-Atlanta University's debt to Woodruff library?

In conclusion, Mr. Blackburn, I would like to leave you with these timely words of wisdom given to me by Attorney Patricia Russell-McCloud, "If you aren't ON the way, you're IN the way, so GET OUT of the way."

If you, Mr. Blackburn, cannot offer means by which to create a greater sense of unity in the Atlanta University Center, then wasting paper and ink to complain about so-called "inequities" in the existing system is futile.

something for which our forefathers fought so fervently to attain?

The present "problem" fits along the same lines as the above predicament.

Our administrators were clearly able to see beyond the pettiness of school differentiation to the more important issue of educating and preparing young black minds for the future.

That members of certain institutions would rather students of another institution be completely without housing and therefore forced to return home deprived of an education at the school of their choice is ludicrous and shameful.

It is this type of division among our people that keeps us from accomplishing the things that need to be done for the betterment of our race.

We, the college educated - or in this case, striving to complete a college education - should not engage in the same self-destruction that is claiming so many of our less-fortunate peers.

We [AUC students] are all striving to reach the same goals, and it is absolutely absurd that any of us should harbor so much hatred toward fellow students solely because they enrolled in another school.

If we take away school names, all that is left are four predominantly black institutions of higher learning working hard to prepare its students to go out into the world and help our race; but we are too unenlightened to see past the names of the respective schools, past the fact that one school receives my money while another

school receives yours.

This triviality must end.

There are so many more important issues at hand, and once we graduate no one will care about the names of our schools, only about the contributions we can make to our society.

What is the big deal if one institution is all-female and surrounded by gates; if another is historically all-male; if another is coeducational; and another has achieved university status?

Education is the only issue that should concern us - the one thing that we all have in common.

We are too busy wasting our energy on dissension that would be much more effective if focused on community service.

In order to serve as role models for the children in the surrounding community, we need to be more unified.

If children see the same dissension among the college students that they see in the streets, how can we be effective leaders?

We must lead by example, and racial unity and education should be the paramount examples that we present to our community.

It is time for us to realize that the problem - AUC disunity - is getting out of hand; now is the time for effective solutions.

In this world of division and strife there is no room for dissension among black people, and we, the students of the Atlanta University Center, must realize before it's too late that we are "all in the same gang."

A.U.C. UNITY

Thought You Might Want To Know. . .

Total enrollment at Spelman College: 1907

Number of full-time students: 1821

Number of students cross-registered from Spelman to

• **Clark-Atlanta University: 378 (undergraduate)
4 (graduate)**

• **Morris Brown College: 41**

• **Morehouse College: 395**

• **Interdenominational Theological Center: none**
Total: 818

Number of students cross-registered to Spelman from

• **Clark-Atlanta University: 111**

• **Morris Brown College: 57**

• **Morehouse College: 363**

• **Interdenominational Theological Center: 2**
Total: 533

Source: Beverly McCrary, Spelman College Registrar's Office

Number of students housed on Spelman's campus: 1175

Number of Spelman students housed on Clark-Atlanta University's campus: 5

Source: Emily Mobley, director of Residential Life, Spelman College

Compiled by Elisa Smith

Attempts were made to gain approval to reprint referenced articles from the Clark-Atlanta University *Panther*. However, reprint permission was not granted prior to print deadline.

By Mendi Lewis

A.U.C. unity is taking a beating. During Freshman Week, we heard all of the stories of the past about fights and stereotypes in the A.U.C. Then we sat in an auditorium for a short while and went to a party together.

"This is cool," we figured. "We can get along with these people. We don't understand why there have been so many problems in the past."

Yet, just over two months later, it is considered stupid to wear the paraphernalia of one college on another's campus.

Why are we afraid to attend a function at another A.U.C. campus?

More importantly, why are our fears made real by brick-throwing and (did I hear) gunshots?

What is in such danger that we have to protect it with "war"?

Could it be our egos?

Could it be that we are so concerned with why someone would go to another school that we are willing to die for it?

Are we that proud?

Are we that stupid?

Do we, the people who will make future important decisions about our race, our country and the world have such bad judgment?

Without one of the four undergraduate A.U.C. colleges, all would be at a loss.

Clark-Atlanta, Morehouse, Morris Brown and Spelman gain so much from just being in the same vicinity.

On each of these campuses there

are intelligent African Americans producing some of the brightest, most well-rounded, aware students in the country.

Should the fact that all of the colleges are striving toward a common goal (education and the uplifting of our race) be an issue to throw bricks over?

Let it be understood that when we stereotype one another, we stereotype ourselves.

Obviously, we have our own reasons for choosing the schools we attend.

The fact, however, that one school has an excellent program in my field of interest, and another in my sister's, should not cause us to come to blows.

On the contrary, it should mean that I have the opportunity to study a wide range of subjects in various centers of black academia in Southwest Atlanta, Georgia.

On a personal note, I have long-lasting friendships with some people from these different schools.

Knowing that I went to the same high school or the same church with them may give me insight in this issue that others do not have.

Therefore, in case you are not aware, I feel it necessary to mention that we all come from the same place.

What good can ever come from disunity, especially within a family?

With all of this in mind, let us consider how we will address the problems within the A.U.C. so that we can get back to the books.

That is, after all, what all of our parents sent us here to do.

By Dionne Blue

Let's talk about A.U.C. unity.

It is a farce.

William Blackburn proved that in his editorial in the October 9, 1991, issue of the *CAU Panther*.

How can we have unity in the A.U.C. when no one seems to make any attempt?

Instead, all I ever hear about is what's "wrong" with Spelman, Morehouse, Clark-Atlanta or Morris Brown students.

First of all, Mr. Blackburn seems sorely misinformed.

In an article in the same newspaper, Dean Hill said that we have never had a housing surplus such as the one C.A.U. is experiencing now. Those of us who had to live in temporary housing for two weeks or who moved off campus involuntarily know just what I mean.

Not only that, but it's not like Spelman students are staying there free of charge.

If Spelman students weren't staying there paying room and board, then Clark-Atlanta would be losing even more money due to an overabundance of unoccupied living space.

Other than Spelman paying room and board, it seems to me that the opposition, alienation and general ill will toward them is payment enough.

The young lady who is petitioning to have the Spelman students removed has greatly disappointed me.

I wasn't surprised to hear such narrow-mindedness from a man, but from another sister?

She said, "Before you bring a guest to your house for dinner, you tell your family they're coming. That is simple courtesy."

Is it also simple courtesy to then want to kick them out of your house and into the street? I think not.

She feels that Clark-Atlanta

students should have access to a various number of Spelman's facilities - almost as an appeasement for letting Spelmanites stay on Clark-Atlanta's campus.

I have a news flash for her: these facilities are NOT accessible to Spelman students free of charge.

I think that Clark-Atlanta students should be rallying and complaining to their own administration to get better facilities and benefits for them on their own campus instead of sulking because they can't use ours.

In regards to William Blackburn, what does he know about who Spelman would let onto our "precious little campus"?

I would like first to remind him that this institution is fenced in not as a means of closing ourselves off from the rest of our brothers and sisters in the A.U.C., but as protection for the students who attend Spelman.

Morehouse also has some semblance of a fence around it, and I personally would feel a lot better for my sisters at Clark-Atlanta if their campus were fenced in also.

Spelman is full of strong, African-American women - diverse and individual.

To classify us all as snobs is narrow-minded and prejudiced.

Blackburn has obviously been dissed and dismissed by a Spelman woman.

I can see why; can't you?

Finally, I would like to say this: as long as men and women with attitudes such as these attend A.U.C. schools, there will continue to be disunity among us.

I would like to remind Mr. Blackburn also of the subtitle of the movie from whence he arrived at the parody "Girlz N the Hood": INCREASE THE PEACE.

By Gay Ojugbana

I decided to attend Spelman College because of its long-standing history of excellence - but that was not my only reason.

Another reason for my choice to attend Spelman was because of its surrounding community (also known as the Atlanta University Center, or A.U.C.).

I thought to myself that no where else in the world does something such as the A.U.C. exist.

I felt that not only would I receive a quality education at one of the best liberal arts schools in the country, but that I would also have the opportunity to be enriched by five other "meccas" of creative, Black geniuses.

However, upon arriving here in Atlanta, I have found my assumption to be somewhat untrue.

Instead of helping one another to be the best that we can be, it seems as if we have bought into the "White man's" theory of divide and conquer.

At this point, I think that for the most part, A.U.C. unity is a myth. With the superb leadership that has been exhibited by schools in the A.U.C., it seems that this situation should be able to be rectified.

If not, we should at least try to make things better than what they are.

By Asma Best

Living in the Clark-Atlanta University dormitory is not such a horrible experience.

I have not experienced any major problems with the young ladies in my dorm.

However, I do feel some coldness from some young ladies, but I do not know if it is because I attend Spelman or because the young ladies are just "stuck-up."

What I really dislike is that I have to walk all the way to Spelman to eat.

Other than that, living in Bumstead-Ware Hall has been pretty cool.

**"Black people
are afraid of
Black unity."**

**- John Singleton,
Film Producer,
Director**

CAMPUS QUEENS



(From left to right) Miss Black America Sharmell Sullivan, Third Attendant to Ms. Spelman Keisha Jones, Ms. Spelman Deshaunda Gooden and Miss Maroon and White Faedra Chatard

Photo taken by Ilene Jones.

Miss Maroon & White Faedra Chatard

By Kanika Williams

Pageant Title: Miss Maroon and White/ Miss NBCA Hall of Fame
Name: Faedra Chatard
Classification: Senior

Faedra Chatard had gained the sense of Spelman sisterhood and much of what this great college has to offer but something was missing.

"I wanted to feel more connected to Morehouse," Chatard said.

Several of her family members attended Morehouse; she, therefore, grew up hearing about the "Morehouse Mystique."

Still she wanted to gain firsthand knowledge about their community.

Winning the Miss Maroon and White pageant gave her the opportunity to fill the void.

"I enjoy being Miss Maroon and White because the title represents a bridge between Morehouse and Spelman," she said. "This title allows me to represent both schools as an African-American woman."

In the past, Miss Maroon and White was only expected to be a part of the annual coronation and to ride on the homecoming court float. However, this year Chatard along with her attendants is trying to broaden their responsibilities by starting a youth and arts community service project next semester.

As Miss Maroon and White, Chatard was obligated to represent Morehouse in the Miss NBCA (National Black College Alumna) Hall of Fame pageant which she won.

This summer, she will enter the Miss African American Collegiate pageant.

As Miss NBCA Hall of Fame, her duties are to enlighten and educate youth on the importance and relevance of black colleges.

In the future she will conduct radio interviews as well as travel across the country advocating this topic.

Like most people, Chatard has ambivalent feelings concerning pageants.

She enjoys the fact that you are able to meet so many people.

She had the opportunity to meet Deshaunda Gooden, Miss Blue and White, along with 33 other campus queens. The downside of pageants, according to Chatard, is that there is too much competitiveness between the contestants involved.

Chatard believes that being in pageants has helped her.

"Pageants exercise your confidence level and ability to think quickly," she said. "There's more emphasis put on the talent and question and answer portion so you learn how to present yourself well."

Ms. Spelman Deshaunda Gooden

By Elyce Strong

Some people think holding the title of Ms. Spelman is a glamorous job, but for Deshaunda Gooden, it is hard work, dedication and a genuine love for the school she represents.

As Ms. Spelman, the graduating junior from Houston is on the executive council of the Spelman Student Government Association, co-advisory chairperson to the freshman class, on the Founder's Day committee and in charge of the Blue and White Extravaganza.

She must also give eight hours of her time to community service a month.

Gooden fulfilled this duty last month by volunteering at the library sorting books and working behind the circulation desk.

This month, she is beginning a

year-long project involving the freshman class. It is called "Kuumba," which means creativity and is held at St. Anthony's school.

Gooden and her court must also sponsor one forum a month. The tentative topic for November is the issue of Black males and school.

As Ms. Spelman, Gooden has to represent Spelman College in pageants.

She has already participated in the Miss National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame pageant. She was named first attendant and received a \$1,000 scholarship.

In June, she plans to compete for the title of Miss Collegiate African-American.

Obviously, the responsibilities of Ms. Spelman are numerous and take up a lot of Gooden's time, but she has

By Elyce Strong

"Beauty is in the eye of the beholder," and apparently, the judges of the Miss Black America pageant saw beauty and more in Sharmell Sullivan this summer, when she won that title for the 1991-92 year.

This Gary, Indiana native received what she believes could really open some doors for her.

It has definitely made her more visible in the performing arts world and given her the opportunity to meet people in the industry and show her talent.

Some of her responsibilities as Miss Black America include touring the country for the entire year, making speaking engagements and appearances and talking to different youth groups.

She has also been on talk shows in Atlanta and Philadelphia, and has done morning radio talk shows in most of the cities she has toured.

Sullivan has met such celebrities as Blair Underwood, Donnie Simpson, Mike Tyson, Salt-N-Pepa and the cast from "A Different World."

She has not yet met Debbie Allen, who Sullivan models herself after, but she hopes to in the future.

It would seem that all this traveling would interfere with schoolwork, and Sullivan admits that it is a struggle.

"It's hard to balance all the traveling with my school work, but I've managed," she said.

She has had to cut her hours and will probably not take a full load next semester.

She said her teachers have been very understanding and have been working with her.

Even though Sullivan is a math and bio-medical engineering major, she really wants to perform.

She would love to dance, choreograph, act, and eventually produce.

She chose that particular major because if she does not make it as a performer, she will have something solid to fall back on.

But she hopes the pageant is the beginning of her performing career.

Miss Black America Sharmell Sullivan

"Hopefully something will come out of it, and if it doesn't, I still have my education," she said.

Sullivan, who is also first attendant to Miss Maroon and White, was Miss Freshman, Miss Ohio Black Expo, Miss Indiana Black Expo, Miss Black Teenage Indiana, second runner-up to Miss Black Teenage World, and first runner-up to Miss Talented Teen.

In recent years, there has been a lot of controversy about the exploitation of women in pageants.

Sullivan obviously does not believe that pageants exploit women.

"A pageant is an avenue for a woman to show her talent, express her views, and show that she knows how to think, has a voice, and has an opinion," she said.

The Miss Black America pageant, in particular, was started because Black women, at that time, could not enter the Miss America pageant.

Sullivan does not believe it could possibly be negative, for it was a protest to the very white pageant. It gave Black women an opportunity to express themselves.

Lately, women in the Miss Black America pageant have been expressing themselves a lot.

There has been a lot of controversy surrounding allegations that the former queen made about boxer Mike Tyson.

According to Sullivan, the controversy is clouding the pageant and bringing negative attention to it unnecessarily.

She believes that the incident and the pageant are unrelated and should be handled as though they are unrelated.

"When I met Mike Tyson, he was very nice," she added.

This pageant has, in any case, changed Sullivan's life for right now.

She doesn't have much of a social life, for her weekends are consumed with pageant-related activities, and when she is in town, she is studying.

She does, however, have a \$4,000 scholarship, a black diamond mink coat, a trip to Hawaii and a trip to the Bahamas.

Pageants also give the contestants an opportunity to earn scholarship money.

And, more importantly, they are fun.

"You get to meet other women experiencing the same thing you're experiencing," said Gooden. "And if you are using the pageant as a vehicle to expand yourself, it can't possibly exploit you."

Gooden definitely uses her title to expand herself.

She wants to earn her doctorate in philosophy, and write and teach, giving specific emphasis to legitimizing African philosophy.

Therefore, she utilizes every opportunity she's given to speak and express her views to the student body, and she works with the children in this community in every way possible.

CAMPUS QUEENS

Miss Black Deaf America Kristi Merriweather



By Kanika Williams

Pageant Title: Miss Black Deaf America/ Miss Black Deaf Georgia
Name: Kristi Merriweather
Atlanta, GA
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Psychology

In order to be eligible for the 10th Annual National Black Deaf America pageant, Kristi Merriweather had to win the local Miss Black Deaf Georgia pageant first.

There were four criteria that the pageant consisted of: private interview (later discounted), talent competition, evening gowns, and stage competition.

"Poise, intelligence, personality and talent were important," Merriweather said.

As Miss Black Deaf America, Merriweather has to visit deaf schools, be involved in forums concerning deaf issues, participate in local and national deaf activities and publicize and assist The Black Deaf Advocates organization.

When asked how this title has affected her academic studies,

Merriweather replied, "Because the organization is fairly new, with only 13 and expanding chapters, my activities are not as many as Miss America; so, it is not difficult for me to excel academically."

Being Miss Black Deaf America has given Merriweather the opportunity to meet many deaf African-Americans. This, she said, was something unusual.

This pageant gave her the opportunity to cultivate her sign language skills and to develop better communication skills.

At first she thought that pageants were just for very selfish people who wanted to publicize their beauty, she said.

But, after winning the Miss Black Deaf America pageant, she now sees them as very exciting and demanding.

"Poise and brains are a very big part of the package," she said. "It's like going on an interview - you want to show your best. The responsibilities after winning the title give you a greater opportunity to be involved."

After growing up all her life surrounded by mostly hearing people, Merriweather said she had no strong sense of identity as a deaf and black person.

"This pageant has shown me the door to where I can be involved in the black and deaf community," she said.

Merriweather, in the future, wants to practice communication skills and establish networks within the community.

"Being a queen means to me, a humble representative of the black and deaf people of America - working with and for them," she said. "The success has made me more desirous to push myself into more unfamiliar experiences and levels."



Murray Tops Glamour's Ten

By Kanika Williams

Pageant Title: Glamour's Top Ten College Women
Name: Latondra Murray
Hampton, VA
Classification: Senior

Latondra Murray, as featured in Glamour magazine's October issue, was named one of the Top Ten College Women for 1991.

"The world's problems may seem complex, even intractable, but this year's Top Ten College winners have already started becoming part of the solution," said Ruth Whitney, editor-in-chief of Glamour. "Their accomplishments aren't expressed simply in a G.P.A., but in the lives they've touched as a result of their commitment to service and helping others, often in a global context."

Murray was selected, along with nine other women, as a junior on the basis of ten areas of accomplishment.

She was cited for her accomplishments in the field of science and technology.

She is currently finishing her dual-degree major, which combines computer science and engineering, at Georgia Technological Institute.

As part of her Women in Science and Engineering Scholarship awarded to her by NASA, she has spent her summers analyzing how well people use computer resources.

In the future she hopes to design educational software.

CONTAX keeps you up to date on opportunities happening in Atlanta and around the country.

AID ATLANTA is offering a one day seminar on AIDS November 2. Topics: medical and research overviews, AIDS and its effects on Women, Children and People of Color, safer sex, testing and living with AIDS. Cost is \$15; lunch is provided. Call 872-0600 ...

The CDS International Career Forum will be held November 2, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the J.W. Marriott-Lenox Plaza. CDS members - \$10; non-members - \$15. Contact Marion Acton at 239-9495 ...

Superstar producers Jimmy "Jam" Harris and Terry Lewis are offering college students the chance to produce a national music video for their St. Paul based group MINT CONDITION. Benefit concert for the institution with the winning video. Call Vivian Funn at (201) 843-2050 ...

"In Atlanta, many elderly black women live in loneliness and poverty thinking no one cares if they live or die. Prove them wrong." Call COMPEER ATLANTA at 894-8667 ...

Academy, 7 Stages and Task Force for the Homeless premiere Barbara Lebow's TINY TIM IS DEAD. This gripping tale of hypocrisy and hope is set in present day urban America on Christmas Eve. Six homeless people all from vastly different backgrounds have come together in a trash filled city alley. Unusual holiday activities abound. The play runs November 7 - 23 at 7 Stages Theatre - 1105 Euclid Avenue in Little Five Points. Additional performances include a \$.99 Rough Show on November 2, and a Preview on November 6 ...

Image and the High Museum present Dave Johnson's The Session on Saturday, November 9 at 8:00 P.M. at the High Museum of Art, Hill Auditorium. The cost is \$4 for the general public and \$3.50 for students and senior citizens. "The Session is a serio-comic examination of an African-American attempting to assimilate into mainstream America, and the neo-militant organization sent to provide him with an "attitude adjustment".

- Compiled by
Adrienne M. Crenshaw

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

AFRICAN-AMERICAN CHRISTMAS CARDS

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Continued from page 3

help or knowing someone who has been there," said one freshman student. "It's nice to know that someone has been through the same experience and can also become a good friend."

The Big Sister/Little Sister Tea has proven to be a big success this year. Juniors and freshmen seemed to have created some very special bonds that will never be broken.

SPORTS

Back to the Baskets

By Maricia D. Bennekin

Basketball season is steadily approaching us!

Eleven dedicated and enthusiastic young ladies along with three dynamic coaches are eagerly preparing for the challenging season that lies ahead.

The team is comprised of two juniors, five sophomores and four freshmen.

Every member of the team is extremely excited about the upcoming season and hopes that the students, faculty and staff of Spelman will actively support them.

The first game is scheduled for November 22 at Oglethorpe College.

Spelman Basketball is FAAAAAANTASTIC!

Good Things Come To Those Who Wait

By Maricia D. Bennekin

This year, a wide array of changes have been made in the Athletic Department.

For starters, the department was allotted a greater amount of money in which to function than in previous years.

This amount is definitely important because it has enabled the department to instill better services to students, faculty and staff, as well as to student athletes who represent Spelman.

One change is that the hours and days for recreation have been expanded.

Instead of the availability of facilities being confined to three days

a week, facilities are now available six days of the week.

The greater allotment of money is also enabling the athletic teams of Spelman to acquire new uniforms, new equipment and better travelling conditions.

In addition, the Athletic Department has a new acting chairperson.

The individual who now fills this position is none other than Mrs. Kathleen Richey-Walton, a well-known professor at Spelman.

Mrs. Richey-Walton, better known for coaching Spelman's Basketball Team, is very excited about her recent appointment.

She is elated because she believes that with this position "it will be challenging to make a difference."

Mrs. Richey-Walton is also very enthusiastic and optimistic about this year because the main goals of the department will be to maintain the quality of core offerings and to further enhance the athletic and recreation programs.

In addition to the new position of Mrs. Richey-Walton, four new faces have also been added to the Athletic Department staff.

These people are: Dr. Naomi Ross, Valeris Belt John, Betty MacClendon and Veronica Norse. All are happy to be at Spelman and hope for the best for the school year.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

High Museum Presents Henry Ossawa Tanner

By Binta Vann

The High Museum of Art is sponsoring a host of artists to be featured this month.

The works of Henry Ossawa Tanner, an African-American artist, will be showing until November 24.

The master prints of Edvard Munch will be featured through November 10.

Spelman College is co-sponsoring a documentary film, with the High Museum, called *Hidden Heritage: The Roots of Black American Painting*.

The film will be shown in the Walter C. Hill auditorium. Admission is free.

It will trace various African-American artists from the American Revolution to World War II and will be shown Thursday, November 14, and Sunday, November 17, at 3:00 p.m.

Also being shown at the High Museum of Art: *Southern Expressions; Tales Untold; Linda Connor; Spiral Journey; and R.S.V.P.*

Third World Film Festival: Fun For All

By Allegra Lawrence

The Bureau of Cultural Affairs presented the 11th Annual Atlanta Third World Film Festival in October, featuring African-American, Latino, Asian-American and Native American films and videos.

In association with the festival, the Spelman College Women's Center hosted a symposium entitled "Black Women Make Films, Too!"

The editor of *The Black Film Review*, Jacquie Jones, and filmmakers Julie Dash and Zeinabu Irene Davis spoke about their experiences in the film industry.

The symposium was facilitated by Cheryl Chisholm, filmmaker and director of the film festival.

The African-American portion of the festival, October 4-6, included a premiere of Dash's movie, "Daughters of the Dust." The movie is the winner of the award for the best cinematography at this year's Sundance Film Festival.

This portion premiered Davis' latest work "A Powerful Thang," which examines African-American male-female relationships.

The festival also included such films as "Didn't We Ramble," narrated by Dizzy Gillespie, and "Diana's Hair Ego," a film about a beautician with AIDS who educates others.

The Latino Film and Video series, from October 11-13, represented two decades of Latino artists.

Yvette Nieves-Cruz, guest programmer of the series, said that the works "are representative not only of our survival as producers but also of the survival of our communities and our cultural traditions against great odds."

The Latino series included a soap-opera film entitled "Ojos Que No Ven," which provides testimony to

the transmission of AIDS in the Latino Community.

"Los Mineros," a documentary previously aired on PBS, narrates the story of Arizona's Mexican-American miners.

The Asian-American portion, October 18-20, contained feature films, documentaries, videos, and television works. Oscar award-winning director Steven Okazaki's only feature film, "Living On Toyoko Time," was presented at the festival.

Director Lise Yasui introduced in person her film, "Family Gathering," and the film of award-winning directors Christine Choy and Renee Tajima, "Yellow Tail Blues," was also presented.

The Native-American Film Festival, October 25-27, showed the most recent film of Hopi filmmaker Victor Masauessa Jr., "Pot Starr." The film confronted the ways Native Americans are viewed.

This portion of the series also included "Honored by the Moon," Mona Smith's most famous work, and "Surviving Columbus," the first part in a series planned for 1992. "Surviving Columbus" describes the first encounters between the Native Americans and the Spanish.

The final part of the series, a video entitled "Fade to Black," is being presented through November 10 in association with the Hammonds House Galleries and Resource Center.

This experimental video by Tony Cokes examines the stereotypes and derogatory images of African-Americans in Hollywood films. It also looks at the histories of African-American men who have experienced racism.

The Hammonds House is located at 503 Peebles Street. For more information, call 752-8730.



Henry Ossawa Tanner, "The Banjo Lesson" 1893 (detail), Hampton University Museum, Virginia.

Henry Ossawa Tanner

A Retrospective Of The Work Of One Of America's Foremost African-American Artists.

The High Museum of Art is proud to present an important exhibition of the work of turn-of-the-century artist Henry Ossawa Tanner, surveying his entire artistic career. Tanner's well-known work includes paintings, drawings, watercolors, prints, and

photographs. His subject matter - all represented in this exhibition - ranges from biblical scenes and landscapes to depictions of the daily life of African-Americans. The exhibition was made possible by Ford Motor Company.

The High Museum Of Art
September 17- November 24

The High Museum is located on Peachtree Street at 16th Street. For further information call 892-1111.

AROUND TOWN

Spelman Alumnae Hold Scholarship Brunch

By Elyce Strong

The Atlanta chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College held its annual scholarship brunch at the Georgia Railroad Depot on Saturday, October 19, at 11:00 a.m.

A Vendors' Market was present. Some of the vendors participating were Aularale Cosmetics, Jamali Fashions and Accessories, Forbes Art Novelties, Avon, V.W. and Associates, Inc., Bolton Apparel, and Mary Kay Cosmetics, Inc.

The room was filled with not only alumnae, but also their spouses, friends and current students.

Dr. Cole greeted everyone with words about Spelman.

"Spelman didn't just become the greatest women's college in the world; it has always been so," she said.

She was presented with a Diamond Lifetime Membership, and was also wished a happy birthday, because her birthday happened to fall on that particular Saturday.

The Alumnae Association then gave Stacey Abrams, a freshman from Gulfport, MS, a \$2,900 scholarship. It covers Spelman's tuition for a semester.

The lunch, which gave everyone an opportunity to socialize with the people at their tables, consisted of cold cut sandwiches, salad, vegetable soup, rolls, peach cobbler and tea.

Barbara Jones, the southeastern director of the National Alumnae Affairs, said the invocation.

There was entertainment while the guests ate. Two women from the class of '83 sang.

Margurite Simon, who is the courtesy chair on the executive committee of the Atlanta chapter for the 1991-92 year, was presented a plaque for dedication and service to the Alumnae Association. She was a physical education teacher at Spelman more than 30 years ago.

Members of the Alumnae Association then began soliciting

membership into the chapter.

A diamond membership costs \$100, while a regular membership is \$25.

Veronica Strong-Young, a graduate of the class of '83, was there for the first time. She said she really enjoyed it.

"I am going to become active," she said. "It was really good to see some of my old schoolmates and professors."

Shirley McGee Fannings, a graduate from the class of '58, has been coming for the past two years. After the first time she came, she said she could not stop coming.

The next part of the luncheon involved giving away door prizes. Two young girls pulled names out of a box. More than 20 prizes were given away.

Finally, everyone stood up, held hands and sang the Spelman hymn.

Everyone left the luncheon saying, and for some, feeling the words, "Oh God forever bind our hearts to thine."

Spelmanites Participate in Black Family Reunion Celebration

By Nissa Walton

The National Council of Negro Women hosted the annual Black Family Reunion Celebration for the Southeastern region on September 27-28 and October 4-6.

The reunion consisted of activities varying from prayer breakfasts to recognition ceremonies, all of which were sponsored by major companies such as Atlanta Life Insurance Company, Anheuser Busch Companies, and Coca-Cola U.S.A. to name a few.

The major event of the celebration was the Pavilion and Marketplace Celebration which took place on Saturday, October 5, in the Lakewood Exhibition Center.

This celebration consisted of different exhibits geared for both children and adults.

Some of the exhibits were: Family Values, Health Screening, Job and Business Opportunities, and Know Your Heritage.

Despite the fact that the Pavilion and Marketplace Celebration occurred on the day of the Hampton vs. Morehouse football game, there were many Spelmanites in attendance.

Spelmanites volunteered their services to the celebration by selling souvenir calendars and participating in the celebrity cook-off.

Junior English major Elyce Strong said, "I was more than happy to volunteer. It made me feel like I was doing something special."

All proceeds made by the selling of the souvenir calendars were donated to the National Council of Negro Women.

EXPRESSIONS

Candle of Love

My love for you is waning -
it flickers like a candle almost out of wax
You have caused this change in me -
I can not escape this simple fact
In the beginning it seemed so right -
we fit like a hand in a glove
But now I feel like we're falling -
we're falling out of love
Each night I grow more restless -
I toss and turn every single night
And every time I think about how much you've changed
I feel an icy fright

"You aren't mine any more," the realization comes in a sudden,
sharp, pain
My heart, once again, is split in two
and the hurt is driving me insane

I hate you - but I still love you - No, I can't love you...
not today
For today I've decided to leave you
because I've run out of things to say
I asked you to treat me better
and you shrugged me off with a nod
And though I would've given you the world yesterday
today I grow weary of your facade

My heart is in two pieces
and my head is hanging low
And though I'll miss you dearly
it's time for me to go

I could have been your everything -

I would have engraved your name upon my heart
and borne it for the world to see
I want you to remember that as the candle blinks out
and the wax forms the letter

"I"

out of what used to be

"WE"

- Sékou Morrison

Relationships

Baby
Before you
Go on
I must tell you
Part of me
Feels neglected.
We've been making something
That isn't love.
I never know what you're thinking
Nor can you read my thoughts.
We meet
We clash
We tumble,
Reach a point of ecstasy
Then go our separate ways.
Sex
is a wonderful thing.
But there's more to me
Than the physical.
I do want you...
But
caress my thoughts
before my thighs
fondle my aspirations,
my breasts won't disappear
stimulate my ideas,
and leave my hidden treasures for later
knead my doubts and fears,
my patient back has borne many burdens
Explore my world...
Then
Take me to heaven.
- Carla Cherry



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